FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

4 AUGUST 1983

PLO Affairs

PCC Meeting — The Palestine Central Council (PCC) began its meeting in Tunis and is expected to discuss the latest developments in the Palestinian arena and the possible summoning of an "urgent" session of the PNC, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported. PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and "all the Palestinian resistance representatives" except for the PFLP-General Command attended the session, according to Radio Monte Carlo. The Council decided to have the Executive Committee form a committee to supervise a cease-fire between Fatah dissidents and loyalists.

Meanwhile, dissident leader Colonel Sa'id Musa Muragha announced that his group will not abide by any decisions reached by the PCC under 'Arafat, KUNA stated. Col Musa also denied reports of heavy fighting in the Al-Biqa' and at the same time accused 'Arafat supporters of initiating the clashes.

Al-Biqa' Situation — Clashes resumed in the Al-Biqa' between Fatah loyalists and dissidents, Beirut radio announced. Meanwhile, a Fatah artillery battalion defected to the dissidents, according to Radio Monte Carlo and JANA. In another development, Baghdad Voice of PLO denounced Syrian "interference" in Palestinian affairs, citing Syrian statements of support for the Fatah dissidents.

Lebanon

Military Situation — The IDF redeployment has begun, Jerusalem radio announced. However, a Lebanese military source denied the report and stated that IDF troops have not begun to redeploy, according to AFP. An Israeli spokesman cited by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon also dismissed the report and said Israeli troop movements were "purely routine."

In southern Lebanon the IDF decided to lift the blockade of the Phalangist camp near Sidon, Jerusalem radio reported. The IDF does not intend to leave the camp, the radio added, and will "ensure" that the Phalangists and civilians currently in the camp leave within the "next few days." In another development, IDF and Syrian forces again exchanged fire in the Al-Biqa', according to Voice of Lebanon radio.

Political Developments — Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Defense Minister Moshe Arens held separate meetings with U.S. envoy Robert Mcfarlane at which both rejected the Lebanese demand for a detailed timetable for Israeli withdrawal to the international border, Jerusalem radio stated. McFarlane and Shamir also discussed the Lebanese postponement of the agreement ratification, the radio added.

Libya-Chad

The Libyan Air Force continued to bomb the northern Chadian town of Faya-Largeau, carrying out three raids which caused more casualties and destruction, the Chadian information minister informed journalists in Ndjamena in a statement reported by SUNA. A French surgeon working in the Chadian capital disclosed that wounded government troops evacuated from Faya-Largeau have sustained "horrendous" burns from phosphorous bombs, according to AFP.

Libyan Secretary for Foreign Liaison 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi told African ambassadors in Tripoli that reports of Libyan air attacks on Faya-Largeau are "false accusations" aimed at disrupting Libya's attempts to secure a cease-fire in Chad sponsored by the OAU, JANA noted. JANA also reported that former President Goukouni Oueddei's forces captured the Chadian minister of public works, who "confirmed" the death of President Hissein Habre.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi forces inflicted further heavy losses on the enemy in the central sector, killing 2,410 Iranians and destroying 13 tanks, Iraq announced in a military communique broadcast by Baghdad radio. The Iraqi commander in the Zurbatiyah area said his forces have foiled the Iranian offensive, during which over 6,500 Iranians have died, according to INA. Meanwhile, a military communique broadcast by Tehran radio said Iranian forces repulsed six Iraqi attacks in the southern sector west of Khorramshahr, causing over 450 Iraqi casualties. Although the Iranian communique said an Iraqi plane was downed by Iranian antiaircraft fire, the Iraqi communique reported that all Iraqi aircraft returned safely to base after raiding Iranian positions.

In another development, the Iraqi commander in the northern sector accused Syrian "agents" of assisting the Iranians during their recent offensive in the mountainous Hajj 'Umran area, according to INA.

Iran

Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni told provincial governors-general that they should have "good relations and a mutual understanding" with the clergy and that they should support the prime minister and the government. Islam would be harmed if the governors were to disagree with the government, and it would likewise be a "calamity" if differences between the governors and the clergy became public knowledge, Khomeyni added in his speech broadcast by Tehran radio. He reaffirmed the need for internal unity in light of Iran's isolation from the outside world, where "almost nobody is in agreement with us, and those who are in agreement are so in words only."

Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabia has not demanded a reduction in the number of Iranian pilgrims and has accepted about 85,000 Iranians for this year's pilgrimage, Pilgrimage Affairs and Awqaf Minister 'Abd al-Wahhab 'Abd al-Wasi stated at a press conference reported by Riyadh radio. He also denied Iranian claims that the Kingdom has obstructed Iran's attempts to secure accommodation for its pilgrims and that the Saudis have reduced the number of flights available to transport them. Al-Wasi reaffirmed Saudi criticism of recent behavior by Iranian pilgrims, asserting that attempts to cause "chaos, confusion, and clashes" are contrary to Islamic principles and violate the Kingdom's security.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Minisummit in Saudi Arabia — Saudi King Fahd, Jordanian King Husayn, and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad will attend a minisummit in At-Ta'if in "the next few days," according to Abu Dhabi press reports cited by QNA.

Ties With Egypt — The Kuwait *Arab Times* urged the Arab world to restore relations with Egypt, pointing out that many Arab countries now enjoy diplomatic relations with Egypt, whose presence at summit conferences in the past "proved beneficial."

Afghanistan

A DRA Foreign Ministry source rejected Pakistani claims that DRA forces have violated Pakistani airspace and territory, Kabul radio reported. The source went on to accuse the Pakistani Government of trying to disguise its "aggressive actions" with "transparent lies and political fabrication."

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Pakistani Foreign Minister Meets With Rao, Departs
BK031300 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] The Pakistan foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, called on the external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, this afternoon. Among other things they discussed bilateral matters. Sahabzada Yaqub Khan later left for home.

Bangladesh, Nepalese Foreign Ministers Depart
BK031019 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] The foreign ministers of Bangladesh and Nepal left New Delhi this morning. They came to attend the South Asian regional cooperation meeting which ended yesterday. They were seen off at the airport by the external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao. The foreign secretary, Mr Rasgotra, was also present.

Commentary Lauds South Asian Cooperation Meeting
BK031455 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1340 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Commetnary by A.N. Dar, resident editor of *Indian Express*]

[Text] A step of historic significance for the region we live in was taken in Delhi this week. It was the birth of the South Asian Regional Cooperation [SARC], which brings together a group of seven countries. These are Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Maldives, Sri Lanka, and India. Their aim is to improve the quality of life of nearly 1 billion people who live in this region.

The grouping came about when, as the prime minister of India, Mrs Indira Gandhi, said, there were disturbing and tragic developments in our neighborhood. That seemed to take away some of the limelight from the steps the seven countries were taking for the long-term good of their people. But that did not detract from the historic nature of the decision and the far-reaching good it will do to the countries constituting this new grouping.

SARC did not take birth all of a sudden. Three years have gone by since the idea was mooted from the seven countries to bind themselves together in a group, which will leave out their mutual differences and bilateral disputes and concentrate on areas of their common concern. The foreign secretaries of these countries had met several times in the past. In Delhi this week, this was the first time that they were meeting at the political level. One of the major decisions they took at the founding of the new organization is to call a meeting at the summit level to give a further fillip to the idea that had just taken concrete shape. The date for the summit will be fixed at the next meeting of the group of seven.

The New Delhi meeting identified nine broad areas of cooperation to which SARC will devote itself. These include agriculture, rural development, meteorology, telecommunications, scientific and technical cooperation, health and population control, transport, postal services, and sports, art, and culture. The list shows the range of interest that will occupy the members of SARC. It also shows the capacity that it will have to do good at the grass roots level. This range of subjects has to be seen in the background of the fact that these countries share the same problems. They have more or less the same economic difficulties, cares about population control, and social drawbacks. They can immensely benefit each other by exchanging each other's experiences and helping out one another.

When Mrs Gandhi addressed the group on the opening day of the foreign ministers conference, she stressed that in this grouping the list looks to their common past experiences, common present handicaps, and the complementary nature of their economies. In this forum, we should avoid bilateral differences and concentrate on what unites us and helps us in our common quest of peace and development, Mrs Gandhi said. She made it clear that the new grouping was not aimed against anyone nor are they moved by any ideological or military considerations. At the same time, the mutual cooperation on which they were embarking would not limit any country's feeling of judgment. We are at the beginning of what promises to be a useful journey, Mrs Gandhi said.

These were realistic words. The foreign minister of India, Mr Narasimha Rao, who presided over the conference, spoke in similar terms. The idea would need careful nurturing so that the infrastructure for cooperation is built up steadily. Some of the other foreign ministers made similar points. As the Bangladesh foreign minister, Mr A.R. Shamsud Doha, said, the move for regional cooperation constituted the single most important constructive event in recent years. From Pakistan had come Sahabzada Yaqub Khan. He had assured to the powerful potential inferent [as heard] in the idea. Sri Lanka's Mr A.C.S. Hameed said the promise of the future rather than the legacy of the past should guide the grouping. The foreign minister of Nepal, Mr Padma Bahadur Khatri, welcomed the grouping because, as he said, no nation could prosper in isolation. Bhutan's minister, Lyonpo Dawa Tsering, called for mutual trust as a prerequisit for the success of the endeavor. Mr Fathulla Jameel, foreign minister of Maldives, laid stress on collective efforts. Through these wise voices there ran a common thread which indicated that the hopes of a vast number of impoverished people will (?link) with the success of the new regional organization that has just taken birth.

Foreign Office Spokesman on Sri Lankan Request for Aid
BK031357 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 3 Aug 83
[Text] India is examining a request from Sri Lanka Government for a number of essential articles for the people displaced as a result of ethnic violence in that country. A Foreign Office spokesman in New Delhi says India is hastening to meet Sri Lanka's needs.

Colombo has requested for wheat flour, sugar, milk food, pulses, canned fish, meat, cooking oil, medicines, vitamins, clothings, soap, and disinfectants. They want these articles to meet the requirements of about 100,000 rufugees.

STATESMAN Comments on Sri Lanka Situation

BK031129 Calcutta The Statesman in English 28 July 83 p 8

[Editorial: "Violence in Sri Lanka"]

[Text] Even before Monday's gruesome jail massacre, the disturbances in Colombo and Jaffna again drew attention to the contrast between Mr J. R. Jayewardene's professed liberalism and the draconian measures that he finds necessary to retain power. New Delhi's criticism of the latter, especially sanction for the army to dispose of the dead without post mortem examination or inquest, may have been injudicious; but it bears remembering that Amnesty International had earlier been far more explicit in listing what it condemned as "violent acts of torture" against Tamil prisoners. The Sri Lanka Government's sensitivity on this question is understandable; it is also entirely justified in taking every possible precaution to prevent the country's disintegration. But it is far less justified in assuming, as recent speeches by ruling United National Party [UNP] M.P.'s in Parliament would seem to indicate, that disapproval of third degree interrogation or of repressive military measures amounts to support for the separatist Tamil Eelam cause. India can have little reason to interfere in the Island's internal affairs, and even less to encourage Tamil secessionists; but the wider long-term implications of growing instability across the Palk Straits cannot so easily be ignored. Colombo's inability to appreciate this regional factor is of a piece with its apparent belief that Tamil grievances will disappear if faced with force.

The greatest tragedy is that when the UNP was first elected, it was expected to pay serious attention to well-founded Tamil complaints of social, economic and political discrimination under the Sri Lanka Freedom Party [SLFP] which pandered to the Buddhist Sinhala lobby. The UNP's earlier record was far more fair than that of the SLFP; Mr Jayewardene's election manifesto in 1977 also raised hopes by promising an all-party conference on the issues raised by the Tamil United Liberation Front [TULF] which has 16 M.P.'s and is the biggest opposition group in Parliament. But though reforms were admittedly attempted, they were too late in coming, and far too ineffective even then, to sustain the goodwill with which the Government started out. In fact, race relations today are far worse than ever under the SLFP. Mr Jayewardene seemed to attach much more importance to prolonging his own political career by depriving Mrs Bandaranaike of her civic and political rights, overhauling the country's Constitution, extending Parliament's term and, in effect, making himself President for life. Absorbed in these changes, he made little effort to examine the causes of discontent or to attempt practical remedies: Sri Lanka has laboured almost continuously under emergency rule since he took over though even this does not seem to have prevented worsening ethnic conflict and cruel bloodshed.

This is not to condone terrorism in Jaffna or violent activity elsewhere in which the SLFP may well have a hand. But continuing unrest, including guerrilla campaigns and a series of crippling strikes, does seem to suggest that Mr Jayewardene has not only squandered the support he enjoyed in 1977, but also failed to achieve any kind of national conciliation. Only the other day the President ordered the dismissal of six university vice-chancellors and various college deans, directors and heads of departments to check student turbulence. When his promise of six years ago to hold an all-party conference at last materialized this month, it was confined to discussing the guerrilla problem and was predictably boycotted by all opposition groups that matter. Attitudes have hardened as a result, and TULF M.P.'s have announced their decision to quit Parliament. Some UNP members may even welcome this withdrawal, but the absence of a viable parliamentary opposition to air grievances, and the Government's inability to protect Tamil lives and property, can only increase the chances of a more serious conflagration in the countryside.

Large Scale Transfers Effected in Jammu Kashmir

BK030431 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] The Jammu and Kashmir Government has effected a big shake up in its administration by ordering transfers on a large scale. Those transferred include 15 secretaries, 2 divisional commissioners, 9 heads of department, and all 14 deputy commissioners. The All-India Radio Srinagar correspondent reports that this is the first time that transfers on such a large scale have been made in a state.

2 Killed in Amritsar Shootings; Patrolling Increased

BK031306 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] One person was killed in Amritsar today when two unidentified persons shot at him. Another person, who was injured in a similar incident yesterday in a village near Amritsar, succumbed to his injuries last night. The state inspector general of police for law and orders, Mr (V.S. Binder), said in Chandigarh that police patrolling has been further intensified throughout the state.

Gandhi on Reprocessing of Spent Fuel at Tarapur

BK030925 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] The government will take a decision to reprocess the spent fuel from the Tarapur atomic power station at an appropriate time. Giving this information in a written reply, the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, told the Lok Sabha that about 140 tons of spent fuel are now stored at Tarapur. She said following a subsidiary arrangement with the International Atomic Energy Agency in 1980 on safeguards, India is free to reprocess the spent fuel.

Yaqub Khan Describes Conference, Talks in New Delhi
BK031735 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] The foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, has said the concept of regional cooperation in South Asia has progressed from the conceptual stage to that of implementation. Talking to newsmen on return to Islamabad this evening from New Delhi after attending the conference of foreign ministers of seven South Asian countries on regional cooperation, he said an integrated program of action will be initiated immediately. Most of the participating countries have already earmarked funds in their national budgets for implementing the program. Pakistan has allocated 3.6 million rupees for this purpose in addition to 400,000 rupees for scholarships to be given to students from South Asian countries.

The foreign minister said Pakistan considers the New Delhi meeting an important landmark in the endeavor of South Asian states to promote mutually beneficial cooperation.

He said Pakistan believes that the growth of regional cooperation will promote welfare of the people, advance the cause of peace and stability in the region, and consolidate understanding among the participating states as well as further the cause of international peace.

Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said during his stay in New Delhi he met the Indian prime minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi. He also had useful discussions with his Indian counterpart, Mr Narasimha Rao. These talks, he said, helped strengthen mutual understanding. In reply to a question, the foreign minister said he discussed with the Indian prime minister matters of mutual interest which included a briefing by him on Afghanistan and the recent visit of the Chinese foreign minister to Pakistan. He said he also discussed economic matters. The question of the next round of the meeting at the foreign secretaries level between India and Pakistan also came up during which the Pakistan offer of a no-war pact and the Indian proposal for a treaty of peace and friendship will be discussed.

Earlier, during a brief stopover at Lahore airport, the foreign minister told PAKISTAN PRESS INTERNATIONAL that he is hopeful about the success of discussions to be held later this month at Islamabad between the foreign secretaries of Pakistan and India on Pakistan's proposal for a no-war pact and India's suggestion for a treaty of peace, friendship, and cooperation.

About the proposed summit of the South Asian countries, the foreign minister said it would take place after the next meeting of foreign ministers of South Asian countries. Before his departure from New Delhi, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said he hoped that relations between Pakistan and India would continue improving in a solid manner.

In reference to press reports regarding the American proposal to supply Pakistan Harpoon missiles, Sahabzada Yuqub Khan said this should not throw out of gear the steady progress of development of relations between Pakistan and India.

Referring to his talks with his Indian counterpart, he said among other things they also discussed the Afghanistan problem and briefed the Indian external affairs minister of the UN-sponsored indirect Geneva talks aimed at seeking a political solution of the problem.

Before returning to the federal capital, the foreign minister also visted the Pakistan Embassy in New Delhi and briefly addressed the staff reviewing bilateral relations between the two countries.

At New Delhi airport, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan was seen off by his Indian counterpart.

Two 'Al-Zulfiqar Trained Guerrillas' Arrested
GF021518 Karachi Nawa-e Waqt in Urdu 31 Jul 83 p 1

[By staff correspondent--from international edition]

[Text] Rawalpindi, 30 JUL — Two trained guerrillas of the "Al-Zulfiqar" antinational terrorist organization were seized along with two 32/35 bore pistols and a Soviet-made handgrenade. These criminals were planning to use them in a bank holdup and to create disturbances on 14 August. Their names are Arshad Mehmood from Chak 564, Faisalabad and Abdurrashid from Kanjah Road, Gujrat.

During interrogation, it was learned that the accused had come from Kabul and had been trained by the Al-Zulfiqar organization, and Afghan identity cards eere found on them. They reveaLed that they had planned to rob a bank in Sialkot and were looking for a driver in (Pirvadhai). The police are searching for the driver. They confessed to being professional criminals and are invoLved in many cases of murder and intent to murder, for which they had gone to Kabul and had obtained training in terrorism.

Paper Views Referendum on Future Political Setup
GF022100 Karachi Nawa-e Waqt in Urdu 31 Jul 83 p 3

[Editorial from international edition: A Referendum on Future Political Setup"]

[Excerpts] During the Majlis-e-Shoora discussions, it has been proposed that a referendum should be held on the new political setup in order to assess public opinion, as this would be more in keeping with the wishes of the people rather than a measure implemented through martial law.

Within 2 weeks, the infrastructure of the new political setup and the program for its implementation will be made public, but the proposal of a referendum to assess public opinion, if true, is a positive and correct step and will assist in closing the door on any future objections.

It is a hopeful sign that the present government insists that the 1973 Constitution has not been abrogated but temporarily placed in "cold storage" for the interim period. Besides, despite their mutual differences, the political cirles are insisting on the upholding of the Constitution. The Majlis-e-Shoora subcommittee has also suggested the same with some amendments and complete unanimity has been expressed during the debates on this point. There is no doubt that the Constitution is not a divine document or a perfect model and there have always been objections on the clause about the powers of the prime minister, but the constitution's greatest virtue and what is fundamentally very important is that in its formulation and approval, the elected representatives of all political schools of thought in Pakistan had participated and accepted it unanimously.

BANGLADESH

Calcutta Paper on Reported Military Coup

BK031105 Calcutta The Statesman in English 27 Jul 83 p 1

[By "our special representative"]

[Excerpt] The chief martial law administrator of Bangladesh, Lieutenant-General H. M. Ershad, is said to have survived an attempted military coup in the first week of July. He immediately reshuffled his Cabinet as well as the Army hierarchy, according to a diplomatic source in Calcutta.

General Ershad's drastic reshuffle apparently culminated in stripping 23 Army officers, ranging from Major-General to Colonel, of their military ranks. Three other Major-Generals were shifted to less important positions. But nobody is certain yet if any Army officers and jawans embroiled in the abortive coup were executed.

Major-General Mohabbat Jan Chowdhury, who was the interior minister in the Ershad Cabinet, was replaced by Mr Abdul Manan Siddque, a close confidant of the chief martial law administrator. General Ershad also took a new Army General, Major-General Abdul Munim, in his Cabinet. General Munim, who is known to be a close associate of General Ershad, has taken over the Public Works portfolio.

Before joining the Cabinet as interior minister. Major General Mahabbat Jan Chowdhury, one of the senior officers repatriated from Pakistan, was the Director of Army Intelligence. It is also suspected that Major-General Abdur Rahman, who has strong leanings towards the Islamic fundamentalist party, Jamaat-e-Islam, was involved in the conspiracy against General Ershad. But being in charge of the Bangladesh Army's Ninth Division, General Abdur Rahman is a powerful figure, which may explain why he has remained untouched so far. The Ninth Division of the Bangladesh Army controls the country's most strategically important area — Dhaka and its neighbourhood.

President Chowdhury's Health 'Improves Steadily'

BK030243 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] The health condition of President Assanuddin Chowdhury continues to improve steadily since his recent gallbladder operation. He is expected to leave the hospital soon.

NEPAL

Foreign Minister Returns From Delhi Meeting

BK031530 Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Excerpts] Minister for Foreign Affairs Padma Bahadur Khatri has said that the just concluded Delhi meeting of the seven South Asian foreign ministers was a significant event in the history of this region. Mr Khatri made the statement on return home today from New Delhi where (?he took part in) the meeting.

Mr Khatri said Nepal, which has all along supported the concept of closer understanding and cooperation among the countries of the region, was much satisfied with the cordial atmosphere and positive outcome of the meeting. He expressed the hope that the [word indistinct] of cooperation would not only be [words indistinct], it will also contribute to greater self-reliance as well as to the greater understanding and stability among the countries of the region.

AFP Account

OW031805 Hong Kong AFP in English 1734 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Kathmandu, Aug, 3 (AFP) — Nepalese Foreign Affairs Minister Padma Bahadur Khatri returned here today after joining the ministerial level meeting of the South Asian nations held in New Delhi.

On his return, Mr Khatri described the signing of the agreement covering the nine areas of integrated action programme by the foreign ministers of the South Asian countries as the most important and solid achievement in the region in recent years.

He said all the foreign ministers of the South Asian countries including Nepal, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, India, Pakistan and Maldives have concluded the meeting with mutual agreement, with the spirit of consensus and without showing any bilateral political differences.

Mr Khatri Also indicated that commerce and trade as an additional programme for the regional cooperation are likely to come up for discussion at the secretarial level meeting which is due for the next year in New Delhi.

He said the Delhi meeting marks the beginning of a new phase in the process of developing closer cooperation among the South Asian countries on regional basis and for mutual benefit.

The joint efforts of the seven countries which had so far been confined to conceptual and feasiblitity phase, now enters into the phase of actual implementation, the foreign affairs minister added.

Mr Khatri said the venue and the time for the summit meeting of the South Asian countries would be decided by another round of the foreign ministerial meeting scheduled for the end of 1984 which is likely to be held at Thimpu. The original idea of regional cooperation was sold out [as received] by King Birendra at the 1978 Colombo plan ministerial level meeting in Kathmandu and two years later it was fully supported by late Ziaur Rahman of Bangladesh for its successful implementation, the offical source stated.

As for the financial resources for the working out of the integrated action programme for the South asian regional cooperation the individual countries have pledged their modest financial commitment.

For this Nepal has pledged 1.5 million rupees (about one million U.S. dollars). However, it has been agreed upon by the foreign ministers at the meeting that they would seek the financial cooperation of the European Economic Commission (EEC) rather than seeking aids from individual countries of Europe.

National Panchayat Amends Proposed Army Bill

BK031642 Hong Kong AFP in English 0413 GMT 3 Aug 83

[By Kedar Man Singh]

[Text] Katmandu, Aug. 3 (AFP) — Nepal's legislature has passed a controversial amendment to a bill to authorize the military court to try a civilian charged with plotting against army personnel on duty. The third amendment to the army bill, which would become law with King Birendra's approval, could curtail civilians' judicial rights since civilian courts have [words indistinct], legal experts here said.

More than 50 members of the National Panchayat, or legislature, left the house in silent protest last Thursday when the amendment was passed. One member, Rup Chand Bista, a leftist youth leader, appealed to National Panchayat Chairman Marich Man Singh to repeal the bill so that the house would not be "defamed" as a pro-army national legislature.

The army bill was signed by Nepal's new Prime Minister Loken dra Bahadur Chand in his capacity as defence minister. The bill was designed to "make the military law applicable to the individuals who kill those employed in the Royal Nepalese Army as well as those individuals who serve under the military law."

It was also meant to make military law applicable "to those who cause the military employees to neglect their duties or cause damage to the military arms and ammunitions or cause such persons to act against the military act." The text also stated "the bill was presented in order to give protection to the military employees when they take action in connection with the discharge of their duties and in order to ensure that if any of the employees of the army deviates or causes such employees to deviate from his duties or is not loyal to the country and the crown, such action would amount to military revolt."

The bill may be the only legislation proposed by the Chand government in the current National Panchayat, which is expected to adjourn in the next two weeks amid moves by opponents of the prime minister to force a vote of no confidence in him.

SRI LANKA

Jayewardene, De Alwis Cited on Developments

BK031723 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1545 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Political solution to the problems of the Tamil-speaking people has to be found for the Jaffna district. President Jayewardene, presiding over today's Cabinet meeting, expressed this view. He said the United National Party manifesto dealt with this problem. The president added that the government has taken action to make the Tamil language a national language. These proposals have to be implemented.

He emphasized that any party which advocates for a separate state must give up its position. The terrorists must put down their arms and negotiate, and amnesty was under consideration. It was his intention to (?present) these proposals at an all-party conference. But instead of a step toward peace, there was (?threat) and violent disturbances.

The Cabinet spokesman, Dr Anandatissa de Alwis, minister of state, said the president had to make a division of the state illegal; law and order had to be maintained. The Supreme Court will decide before Parliament meets tomorrow whether the law needs a 2/3 majority or a referendum. The government parliamentary group meets tomorrow in Colombo to explain these issues to the MP's in detail. Those who may participate in the debate in the Parliament will also be announced at this meeting. Parliament will also decide tomorrow whether or not the proceedings will be open to the public.

Dr de Alwis announced that the rehabilitation program will be launched shortly. It will be directly under the supervision of the president and will have a separate ministry. He said that the situation has now improved. Reports indicated that there were no disturbances and that law and order was being maintained. He added that Tamil United Liberation Front members of Parliament would be given whatever security they required to attend Parliament tomorrow.

The minister added that there has been no discrimination in the appointment of public officers in the government. He cited the example of the inspector general of police, who is a Tamil and is a highly respected officer.

Curfew Lifted,To Be Reimposed;Essential Services Open

BK031409 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] The curfew which is now in force throughout the island will be relaxed at 0400 tomorrow. It will be reimposed at 1700 tomorrow. All government departments, corporations, and statutory boards will function as usual. The Bank of Ceylon and the People's Bank will be open for business from 0900 to 1200 noon tomorrow.

The commissioner general of essential services, Mr (Sedmen) Weerakoon, says that the food supply situation is satisfactory. Only the distribution of flour is causing a problem. He indicated that most of the people have reported for work today. All essential services are functioning well. He also stated that international and nongovernmental organizations and the UN agencies are being allowed to enter the rehabilitation centers to engage in relief activities.

Mr Weerakoon added that the movement of displaced persons from Colombo to Jaffna is improving satisfactorily.

Spokesman Says 258 Lives Lost During Violence

BK031413 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] The loss of lives up to the 29th of July was 258. Doughlas Liyanage, secretary, Ministry of State, according to police reports, also said that cases of arson up to the same period amounted to 1,321. The police detected 22 cases of looting and 281 cases of mischiefs. Other violent activities up to the 29th totaled 84. The number of looters and curfew violators arrested was 460. Mr Liyanage also disclosed that a large quantity of looted property has been recovered.

Government agents and district ministers have indicated that the situation during the last 24 hours is normal in Ampara, Vavuniya, Batticaloa, Polonnaruwa, Kandy, Kurunegala, Mannar, Nuwara Eliya, Puttalam, and Ratnapura. The situation in Jaffna is normal.

The secretary added that arrangements are being made for all foreign journalists in Sri Lanka with (?accreditation) to attend the parliamentary session tomorrow.

AFP Rounds up Current Domestic Situation

BK031039 Hong Kong AFP in English 1010 GMT 3 Jul 83

[AFP Note: "This dispatch was subject to censorship."]

[Excerpts] Colombo, Aug. 3 (AFP) -- The Sri Lankan Government today said that 267 people were killed by civilians in more than a week of ethnic violence across the country and put the number of refugees at 79,000. An official source said no casualty figures were available so far for those killed by security forces during the wave of killings, arson and looting.

Meanwhile, Sri Lanka's Cabinet met here today as the country was gradually returning to normal. Nine Supreme Court judges were also due to meet today to examine draft legislation designed to outlaw parties advocating separatism and sanction individuals calling for division of the island state.

State Secretary Douglas Liyanage said that 460 people had been arrested were arrested for looting and violating the curfew. [sentence as received]

He added that reports from the provinces indicated that all was quiet, with no incidents recorded in the Jaffna district since the July 23 attack on an army patrol by militant Tamil separatists.

Earlier State Minister Anandatissa de Alwis said that President Junius Jayewardene told the Cabinet that he still believed that a political solution to the grievances of the Tamil people, particularly in the Jaffna district, had to be found. Mr. Jayewardene had hoped to offer to withdraw the prevention of terrorism act, withdraw the Armed Forces from the north, ask the Tamil "terrorists" to lay down their arms, and even grant an ammesty, Mr. de Alwis said. He added that the president had hoped to unveil his offer at the all-party conference he had summoned to discuss the Tamil question. He had planned to announce at the conference that any party advocating separatism would be banned. Mr. de Alwis today said the president was even ready to invite the Tamil "terrorists" to enter into discussions after laying down their arms. He added that when the 13 soldiers were killed, Mr. Jayewardene had no option but to take strong action.

On relations with New Delhi, Mr. de Alwis said that "India was one of the most friendly neighbours we have."

Supreme Court Rules on Amendment to Constitution

BK040238 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1545 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Excerpt] The Supreme Court, which examined the provisions of the bill to amend the Constitution, ruled today that the bill other than for two provisions is not inconsistent with the Constitution. The provisions which were found repugnant to Article 11 of the Constitution relate to the forfeiture of immovable and movable property and that the forfeiture provided is without any qualification or (?litigation). [sentence as heard] However, the solicitor general stated the court [as heard] that this provision would be suitably amended so that it will not be inconsistent with Article 11. The recommendation of the Supreme Court was forwarded to President Jayewardene a few hours ago.

Parliament Meets on Amendment, Other Business

BK041114 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 4 Aug 83

[Text] Parliament is meeting to consider and debate to a finish the sixth amendment to the constitution bill and other important items of government business.

Khomeyni Urges Governors-General, Clergy Concordance
LD031308 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, received for talks this morning governors-general from all over the country. During the meet ing,Interior Minister 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri presented a report to the imam of the Islamic nation with regard to the governors-general conference. Addressing them, Imam Khomeyni then graciously said:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. I am going to tell you certain things which although they are reiterations must be repeated and recommended.

There are two issues here: One is that you should have good relations with the clergy. I have often directed the clergy to do the same, but since you are here today I am emphasizing this to you. By getting along with the clergy, you should get the people on your side. In these circumstances, you will not be harmed, since harm arises from disputes. You and the clergy should achieve mutual understanding. You know that whatever has been achieved so far has been a result of concordance. Our progress has resulted from the agreement that exists among all strata. If foreigners wished to achieve anything, they would not intervene directly. We are dutybound and responsible for preserving Islam, and today the preservation of Islam lies in mutual understand ing: mutual understanding among all strata, between the people and the clergy, between the clergy and the governors-general, among the governors-general, the people, and the clergy. This is divine duty for which we are answerable.

The second issue is that all governors-general, wherever they are, should be the government's supporters. Governors-general should today bolster the prime minister, the government, and the Majlis. If, God forbid, they were to disagree, this would culminate in a chasm and Islam would be harmed, and if Islam is harmed, God forbid, that would be instrumental in preventing Islam from rising for sometime to come. If those who have been slapped down by Islam and have realized that Islam is saving the nations rose up and dealt blows to Islam, what reply could we give? The governors-general should support the prime minister, the government, and all ministers. You should stand together and support each other.

Once again I emphasize that if the authorities get along well together, this country will not be harmed. And if this country were harmed, it would be because of differences among the authorities. As the holy shari'a has graciously decreed, the government, the Majlis, and the judiciary should feel that they have one duty — that they should have no differences. Differences today will result in their filtering through to the fronts. And if this happens, God forbid, a catastrophe will come about.

Today almost nobody is in agreement with us and those who are in agreement are so in words only. Nevertheless, the guards, the army servicemen, the mobilization forces of the revolution guards,and the rest of the forces have succeeded in achieving victories. This is because there are no differences among them. Differences between the clergy and the governors-general, or even among themselves, would filter through to the people and would be reflected on the fronts. You would be unable to assess the calamity that would arise from this. The great calamity is that if this happened, Islam would not be able to raise its head. You should be aware that it is your duty to stand together so that you can carry this burden to the very end. Serve well! Attend to the needs of the meek! You bear an exacting responsibility to the impoverished everywhere who have been under pressure and suffered trials and tribulations throughout history. You should display seriousness until you find the way to improve this. Devote your serious efforts to achieve development and advancement for them. Today you should serve the meek, the poor, and the slum dwellers who are our bread winners! Before God, the blessed and the exalted, there are very few services equal those of the slum dwellers. Peace and God's mercy and blessings be upon you!

Prime Minister Addresses Governors-General Seminar
LD311814 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 31 Jul 83

[Excerpts] A seminar of governors-general from all over the country currently being held in Tehran continued its work this afternoon with a speech by Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi.

In his speech, the prime minister praised the combatants of Islam, saying: On the western fronts the combatants of Islam have succeeded in dealing fatal blows on the Saddamists. Our forces are moving toward their objectives with great speed and, God willing, the sequence of these operations will continue and will brighten the future of the region.

Commenting on the point that the Islamic Republic takes a firm step toward stability every day and that at present it is considered an influential force in the world, the prime minister said: The fear spread by the liberals about the isolation that would befall us and prevent us from establishing relations with other countries has, 5 years after the Islamic Revolution of Iran, with the grace of God, been proved false. Today we are a determining force in the world.

Referring to the annihilation of the treacherous Tudeh Party, Musavi said: On the international arena, we have shown that we are committed to our principles, which are based on our ideology. We have expanded our economic relations with the world and will not allow our trade relations to divert us from our original path.

Referring to the country's political sovereignty, the prime minister said: Iran's political sovereignty is strongly felt all over the country; the operations carried out in the west are indicative of this fact. These operations prove that our system is capable of being present wherever necessary and of dealing blows to the enemy.

Referring to the help provided by the superpowers, especially France, which has recently put modern aircraft at the disposal of Saddam's regime in order to destroy a vital part of the Islamic

Republic of Iran, the prime minister said: One should ask: Why does France put these aircraft, these Mirages, and other credits at the disposal of this Zionist regime, the regime of Iraq, which has secured a $50 billion loan and is still seeking more credit, and which enjoys the support of the superpowers? We rely on God alone, the hezbollahi nation and the blood of our martyrs; we have not asked for credit from any country. I should add that this war is the war of Islam against blasphemy.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,407

LD031816 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Communique No 1,407 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The pious and patient warriors of the battlefields, these tireless and steadfast combatants, continue their holy war against the enemy. At 2227 last night, one intruding Iraqi plane was hit by fire from our ground to air defense units in the Mahshahr region and crashed. After repulsing the enemy's desperate counteroffensives, the forces of Islam in the Val-Fajr III operational sector are now firmly deployed in their positions, on full alert and in full control. By returning enemy fire, they are bravely defending the regions under their protection.

By opening intense fire, our combative units in the Val-Fajr III operational sector maintained their superiority, prevented the enemy's movements, and inflicted effective blows on the Saddamist forces.

An exchange of artillery and mortar fire continued on the southern fronts. In the Shalamcheh sector, the artillery fire exchange was more intense. By 1530 yesterday, the brave forces of Islam with resistance and steadfastness had repulsed six consecutive attacks by the enemy, which had been launched to capture our earthworks in the Shalamcheh sector. After suffering more than 450 dead and wounded and providing several prisoners,the enemy was finally forced to flee the arena of operations.

Fire exchange continued in the Abadan and Khorramshahr operational zone yesterday. One ammunition depot of the enemy on the other side of the Arvand Rud was set ablaze.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

IRNA Reports Downing of Iraqi Helicopter in Ilam

GF031734 Tehran IRNA in English 1718 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Bakhtaran, Aug. 3 IRNA — An Iraqi helicopter gunship was downed in Mehran, Ilam Province, Tuesday by the fire of the Islamic combatants. Also more than 180 Iraqi aggressors were killed, while a logistic bridge, and a vehicles lot of the enemy were set ablaze and demolished in the operational regions of the border city of Mehran in the Val Fajr-3 theatre.

Meanwhile, during the past 24 hours an Iraqi logistical column was damaged by the heavy fire of the Islamic defenders.

The Islamic combatants zeroed in on the aggressor Iraqis military fortifications, logistical routes, and tank and infantry positions in Sumar, Naft Shahr, Qasr-e Shirin and Nowsud battle fronts during the preceding 24 hours and smashed one munitions depot, one mortar launching pad, and one truck carrying personnel killing at least 24 enemy soldiers.

Syrian Official Calls Iranian Visit 'Spectacular'

LD031046 Tehran IRNA in English 0939 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 2, IRNA — The Syrian politio-economic delegation headed by Dr. Taha Bali, Syria's deputy economic and foreign trade minister who arrived here on July 10, left for Damascus today.

Hojatollah Ghanimi-Fard, foreign trade deputy of the Commerce Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran, briefed IRNA on the outcome of the visit of the Syrian officials here. He said that the visit of about 1,000 officials and other businessmen from Syria who were in the Islamic Republic during the past two weeks attest to the steadfast and the ever-increasing ties between the two countries.

The visit of the Syrian minister, he said was in connection with setting up an exhibition for Syrian made goods in Tehran. Ghanimi-Fard said talks on the issue had been in progress for about a year between the two countries officials. He said the meetings of Taha Bali with officials of the Islamic Republic Foreign Ministry, Commerce and Economic and Finance Ministries, as well as the governor of the Central Bank of Iran were successful, and positive results will emerge from them. He also hoped that these meetings would result in the further expansion of ties in all fields between the two countries.

Meanwhile, the Syrian minister in talks with IRNA termed his visit to the Islamic Republic as spectacular, and said that it was the first event of its kind between the two friendly and brotherly countries.

He said the presence of a great number of Syrian officials in Iran, coinciding with the victories of the Islamic combatants in the Iraqi imposed war is indicative of the deep and sincere relations between the two countries. He further said he would do all within his ability to strengthen the friendly and the sincere relations between the two countries, and work together to annihilate imperialism and Zionism, and above all Saddam and his henchmen.

DPRK Political Under Secretary Arrives 2 August

LD031147 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Our correspondent reports that Mr Kim Hyong-u, political under secretary of the DPRK Ministry of Foreign Affairs,arrived in Tehran last night and was welcomed by Sheykh ol-Eslam, political under secretary of our Ministry of Foreign Affairs, a

number of high-ranking officials of that ministry, and the DPRK ambassador to Iran.

On his arrival, the DPRK political under secretary spoke to our correspondent, expressing his pleasure at visiting Iran, and said of the reasons for his visit: Our visit to Iran is to exchange opinions on international issues and the promotion of greater expansion of our economic and commercial relations and greater cooperation between the two countries. In view of the present world situation, the expansion of relations and cooperation between the two nonaligned countries of Iran and Korea would produce greater relations among the nonaligned and developing countries. [sentence as heard] He then said: This time our delegation plans to inspect your victories on and behind the fronts and to become more acquainted with your victories.

According to this report, the DPRK political under secretary will meet and have discussions with a number of the officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran during his stay in Tehran.

Talks With Ministry Official

GF031728 Tehran IRNA in English 1700 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 3, IRNA — Kim Hyong-u, the political deputy of the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (PDRK) who arrived here Tuesday, held talks today with his Iranian counterpart Mr. Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam.

During the meeting the two parties exchanged views on the cordial relations between the two countries and ways of expanding them. They also explained the stance taken by their countries towards the international issues.

Kim Hyong-u who is conveying a message from Kim Il-song, the leader of the DPRK, for President Khamene'i of the Islamic Republic of Iran said in part: We visited Beheshte-Zahra today (Tehran's main cemetery) and envisioned the heroic struggles of your martyrs.

He said the victories of the Islamic revolution under the leadership of Imam Khomeyni changed the political and the economic values. We witness the (post-revolution) achievements exceed those of the 50 year era of the previous regime.

Sheykh ol-Eslam, in return, hailed the struggles of the people of the DPRK against imperialist powers, in particular the U.S., and expressed hope that the mutual cooperation between the two countries would result in ever expanding cordial relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Meeting With Foreign Minister

LD040301 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Kim Hyong-u, political under secretary of the DPRK Ministry of Foreign Affairs, this evening met with Foreign Affairs Minister Velayati and talked about friendly relations between the two countries and international issues.

The political under secretary of the DPRK Ministry of Foreign Affairs in this meeting said: I am very pleased that I have come to the hero-nurturing country of the Islamic Republic of Iran and I can view closely your successes achieved under Imam Khomeyni's leadership. We are hearing these days about the victories achieved by your combatants on the fronts and consider these victories as our victory and congratulate you on them.

Our foreign affairs minister welcomed him, saying: The relationship between Iran and the DPRK is a close and strong one and has been expanding since after the Islamic Revolution and will continue to do so. Our mutual enemies struggle to deter us from standing on our own feet and wish us to kneel before them.

Our country's foreign affairs minister added: They want to take our independence from us; whereas the greatest achievement of the Islamic Revolution is independence and detachment from foreign governments. The reasons for our enemies' attacks on us — above all the reason for Iraq's attack on Iran — are our independence and detachment.

Oil Minister Briefs Hashemi-Rafsanjani on OPEC

GF031608 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] During a meeting today, Petroleum Minister Gharazi briefed Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani on the results of the recent OPEC ministerial conference. Also, Hashemi-Rafsanjani gave his instructions to the petroleum minister.

Prime Minister Views Responsibility of Youths

GF281746 Tehran IRNA in English 1650 GMT 28 Jul 83

[Text] Tehran, July 28, IRNA — A group of student members of the Islamic Republic Party from all over the country today met with the prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mir-Hoseyn Musavi.

In the meeting Musavi delivered a speech on the aims of colonialism in keeping the people in the Third World backward.

He said in part one of the aims of colonialism is to keep students and the youth away from the serious issues in their country and attempts to keep this group busy with idle and even worthless matters.

It (colonialism) implements politico-cultural programmes in order to keep minds of the youth busy so that they may not think about their fate, Musavi added.

He said that previously our youths were so indoctrinated that even at the age of thirty they felt they should not interfere in the existing issues of the country. But in Islam, he noted, the youths at certain age are obliged to decide on the major issues of the society. This is why, he went on to say, the society accepts the fact that the individuals have their own rights at an early stage in their lives.

These are the thirteen-year olds (the teenagers) who drag the revolution, the government and the Majlis (the national assembly) behind themselves and this way they guarantee the continuation of the Islamic revolution which is unprecedented all over the world, Musavi said.

In another part of his speech the prime minister said that what happened here in Iran changed the whole world and the movement which has started here does not belong to Iran alone.

Referring to the independence of the politics of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Musavi concluded his speech by saying no revolution has ever been able to study its political issues as quickly as ours.

'Combatants,' Technicians Depart for Fronts

LD300932 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0230 GMT 30 Jul 83

[Excerpt] Continuing the dispatch of Islam's combatants to the battlefronts of good against evil, during the past few days,a vast group of selfless basij [mobilization] fighters and members of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps from Khorasan, Esfahan, Gilan, Mazandaran, Boyer Ahmad, and Kohkiluyeh Provinces and the cities of Qom, Nahavand, Malayer, Borazjan, Damghan, Bushehr, Yasuj, Kashan, Yazd, Qazvin, Hamedan, and Zanjan left for the warfronts against the Zionist enemy.

Also a group of our technical brothers, including builders, welders, cement workers, and ordinary laborers left for the war zones from our country's various cities.

IRNA Reports Kho'ini Press Conference on Hajj

LD031102 Tehran IRNA in English 0944 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Tehran, Aug 2, Irna — Imam Khomeyni's representative in hajj organisation Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Kho'ini gave a press conference today on the obstacles raised by Saudi rulers on the way of the Iranian pilgrims visiting the sacred house of Mecca this year. The press conference was attended by domestic and foreign journalists.

Kho'ini said the Saudi rulers' measures stemmed from their anti-Islamic and colonialistic views which deemed religion separate from politics. He said this is why the Saudi regime is attempting to divorce the politico-religious duty of hajj from its real meaning, as the Iranian pilgrims intended to go to Mecca bearing in mind the injunctions of Imam Khomeyni that toppled the Pahlavi regime and has resisted U.S. imperialism.

Kho'ini said that it was natural that the Islamic republic's position should militate with that of the Saudis and that the Saudi rulers should know that they could not combat the resolutions of the Muslims. He warned that if the Saudi rulers were obtinate in their resistance, then this would have catastrophic consequences for them. He added that the Muslim nation of Iran is determined to fulfill its religious duty as gloriously as possible and that the Saudi obstacles would not stop them.

Kho'ini declared that Iranian pilgrims would complete the hajj ceremonies even if they had to live in tents in the desert or reside in mosques. He said that we will perform our hajj duty as preached by Islam whether the Saudi rulers like or dislike it, and irrespective of the fact that they claim hajj has no political dimension.

"What do the Iranian or some non-Iranian pilgrims say during the ceremonies that the Saudi Government disagrees with?" asked Kho'ini, adding "They say 'Down with the usurper Israel, and Muslims must rise against this cancerous tumor.' They say 'Down with the U.S.', or they say 'Down with the USSR, the power which has occupied Afghanistan.'" He said "The Saudi Government is telling us not to say these things because hajj is merely for worship and what you say is political."

"We say if the Saudis tell us not to shout 'Down with Israel', then this itself is a political act and a pro-American one. If shouting 'Down with Israel' is a political act then not sayng it is political in the same manner."

Asked about the principal reasons why the Saudis are opposed to Iranian pilgrims, Hojjat ol-Eslam Kho'ini replied, "They say our pilgrims must have no contact whatsoever with Saudi Arabian citizens, and living accomodations should be rented from state owned institutes and the Saudi landlords must contact these institutes and in every house rented to Iranian pilgrims, one room should be set aside for Saudi security men."

He said, "We ask why should only the Iranians follow these regulations and why must they be faced to rent a room for the security men which imposes extra costs on us."

Asked about Imam Khomeyni's guidelines in the meeting which took place Monday, Khomeyni replied, "Imam pointed out that the Saudis could not throw obstacles on the way of Iranian pilgrims, nor did they have the power to stop a nation with a population of 40 million for saying 'Down with the U.S.'..and if this was the Saudis' intention, then they had to announce it officially so that the Muslims of the world could make their decision."

Kho'ini said, "Imam told us to be resolute in our decisions and that the question of housing is not something that could make pilgrims change their minds about hajj."

"Imam said that people would go for hajj and would not give up this great worship even if they had to reside in the sacred mosques," he added.

In another part of the conference, Kho'ini talked about the practical ways of setting care-taker council for the two holy mosques in Mecca and Medina and said, "The Saudi officials lack the merits necessary for governing the two holy mosques... and as for the council it is important, as the holy Koran has pointed out, that Mecca and Medina should always have provisions available for those performing hajj ceremonies, and any person or group who can ensure this posseses the required merits... It is not important whether one or a group of governments take the responsibility. One solution is that very Muslim country have a representative in that council."

Kho'ini added, "If the revolutionary nation of Iran is not permitted to perform the hajj ceremonies the Saudi Government will prevent other nations in future and all the [word indistinct] nations will rise against Saudis. Therefore the Saudis dare not do this."

He concluded by saying that the Saudi rulers were hostile towards the Iranian nation because, he said, this nation had toppled a monarchical regime and their presence in Saudi Arabia was intolerable by her rulers.

Majlis Deputy Cited on Tudeh Trial Delay

GF031648 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] In Tehran, a wave of distrust has been detected among the Majlis deputies over the lax attitude of the regime's officials toward the Tudeh leaders. These people consider the delay in the trial of the Tudeh leaders as an organized plot hatched by Tudeh sympathizers within the government.

(Makham Tashgardun), Majlis deputy from Gach Saran and Kohkiliyeh, in an open Majlis session recently warned the judiciary that they should not keep the people expectant and indignant for too long and that they should undertake the trial of the Tudeh leaders. This deputy openly warned that for Iranians, the Soviets and the Americans are both enemies and that the judiciary should know that the Iranian Muslim nation will accept nothing short of the execution of the Tudeh leaders.

At the same time, while government officials told the judiciary to undertake the trial of Tudeh leaders, the Tudeh Party committee in exile in a communique called on its members in Iran to protect their three-man cells against the aggressive plans directed against it.

Reportage on Afghan Mujahidin Activities

Herat Province Attack

GF271722 Tehran IRNA in English 1638 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] Zahedan, July 27, IRNA — Six Afghan security officers were killed two weeks ago as their residence in Behzad Hotel in the city centre of Herat, western Afghanistan, was attacked by the Muslim combatants of Afghanistan who also seized two Klashnikovs.

Reliable sources added that a number of Afghan soldiers joined the Mujahideen combatants with an armoured tank of pro government forces on the Herat-Qandhar route two weeks ago. The Afghan Muslim mujahideen, using the said tank shelled the governors office of Herat inflicting some damages on the building.

Nimruz Province Clashes

GF280914 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 28 Jul 83

[Text] In two clashes with the Soviet forces in Nimruz Province, the Afghan Muslim revolutionaries killed more than 28 of the invaders and wounded a large number.

The Afghan Muslim revolutionaries destroyed one tank and a jeep belonging to the Soviet forces during these operations. They also captured large quantities of amunition and military equipment.

They also fought fierce battles with the Soviet and Afghan Government forces near Kabul last week. They killed a large number of these troops and destroyed a large number of tanks and machinery.